

**From:** Sanders, LaTonya

**Required Attendees:** Brooks, Karl; Tapia, Cecilia; Hammerschmidt, Ron; Asher, Audrey; Whitley, Christopher; Gravatt, Dan; Singletary, DeAndre; Weber, Rebecca; Toensing, Don

**Optional Attendees:** Smith, John; Hague, Mark; Cacho, Julia

**Location:** R7-RO2.B-C32-Controlled-65/R7-RO; Call-In Number: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**

**access code:** **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**

**Importance:** Normal

**Subject:** West Lake Landfill Briefing for staff of Rep. William Lacy Clay - AGENDA ATTACHED

**Start Date/Time:** Mon 4/15/2013 9:00:00 PM

**End Date/Time:** Mon 4/15/2013 10:00:00 PM

Briefing Form - Clay re West Lake Landfill 4-15-13.doc

The Congressman is very concerned with an underground fire at the Bridgeton landfill in his district, which is overseen by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. 1200 feet away is the Westlake Landfill Superfund site, which is overseen by the EPA. Constituents in the Congressman's district are very concerned with the smell, air pollution, health risks, and possibility of the Bridgeton fire reaching the radioactive Westlake site and releasing radioactive waste into the air. Although they are 1200 feet apart, and Bridgeton is trying to contain the fire, the EPA studied groundwater just 100 feet away from the underground fire that contained radioactive waste. That is why the Congressman is asking for a time sensitive yet comprehensive plan from the EPA to address the community concerns regarding this issue.

**The Congressman is requesting an EPA report on agency coordination, risk assessment and disaster readiness in regards to the West Lake landfill superfund site and the adjacent advancing subsurface landfill fire.**

For example, the EPA had the site owner conduct additional groundwater sampling on the West Lake site in the summer of 2012 (during the drought). The agency released the report on the testing in December 2012 and hosted a public meeting January 17 to discuss the findings with the community. Meanwhile, the Dept. of Natural Resources Solid Waste Division continued to oversee the "underground smoldering event" or landfill fire occurring on the adjacent property. On March 27, Attorney General Chris Koster filed charges against the owner of West Lake, Republic Services. This week a local resident, Dawn Chapman, raised concerns with the agencies about the proximity of PZ-109-ss, one of the monitoring wells, to the perimeter of the advancing fire. Her concerns are particularly urgent because radionuclides were detected in PZ-109-ss, and it appears, from the site maps, to be within 100 ft. of the frontline of the fire. Dawn was shocked to discover that: The Attorney General did have this groundwater report; the St. Louis County Health Dept. did not have this groundwater report; Senator Claire McCaskill's office did not have this groundwater report, and neither did Congressman Wm. Lacy Clay.

Public officials responsible for health and safety in St. Louis cannot make good decisions with incomplete information. Please explain and document how the EPA is coordinating the efforts to manage the risks at the West Lake site among the Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources, the Missouri Dept. of Health and Senior Services, St. Louis County Health Dept., St. Louis County Emergency Response, area schools, Bridgeton Landfill, and local first responders.

If you have any questions please let me know. I look forward to your response tomorrow. Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Pauline Jamry**

Legislative Counsel

Office of Congressman Wm. Lacy Clay (MO-1)

2418 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.2406

Fax: 202.226.3717

[Pauline.Jamry@mail.house.gov](mailto:Pauline.Jamry@mail.house.gov)

<http://lacyclay.house.gov/>